

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OHIO'S STATE-SUPPORTED COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES PERFORMING
EQUAL TO OR AHEAD OF NATION, BOARD OF REGENTS REPORT SAYS**

COLUMBUS, Ohio, December 13, 2000 – The Ohio Board of Regents today released the ***State-Supported Ohio Colleges and Universities Performance Report***, which was conducted at the request of Governor Bob Taft as a collaborative effort of the Regents and Ohio's public colleges and universities. The release of the Ohio report comes on the heels of the release of a National Report for Higher Education, released last week by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education. The Ohio report is part of the higher education's **commitment to accountability and performance**.

The report – which now will be prepared annually – shows that Ohio is equal to or ahead of the rest of the nation in several areas of performance, including: graduation rates; time and credits to a degree; transfer and persistence (retention) rates; recent college graduates' success getting jobs in-state and obtaining competitive salaries; and success of students who transfer from two-year to four-year campuses.

"I applaud the Ohio Board of Regents and Ohio's colleges and universities for their careful, thorough work in preparing this performance report. It is a valuable benchmark that will enable us to compare colleges and universities and plan future projects," said Governor Taft.

There are several notable conclusions from the report, illustrated in the following scenarios:

- **John and his family want to know how much time and how many credits it takes to get a college degree**
 - If John goes to college full-time, he can complete a four-year degree in four years at any university in Ohio. A majority of students (60%) at Miami University do so. In 1998-99, the average bachelor's degree was completed in five years.

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Ohio College and University Performance Report Released

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- If John goes to college part-time, he can complete a four-year or two-year degree in a longer time. In fact, community colleges often continue to work with associate degree students from five to seven years after they begin.
- Timely degree completion reflects the pace of students, not the curriculum of the college or university as the number of credits it takes to get a degree are so similar from one college to the next.
- **Mary and her family want to know if the price of college will really make a difference in her life. Mary can find what it costs to go to college:**
 - \$2,000-\$3,000 per year for associate degree full-time (total = \$4,000-\$6,000 for two years)
 - \$3,000-\$6,400 per year for bachelor's degree (total = \$12,000-\$25,000 for four years)
- **Does it pay off for Mary and Ohio's taxpayers? Yes, Mary will get a good job.**
 - 63% of Ohio college graduates are working in-state; 70% are continuing their education above bachelor's level
 - High school diploma vs. associate degree: \$10,000 the very first year = payoff in one year.
 - High school diploma vs. bachelor's degree: \$12,000 the very first year = payoff in two years.
- **All college degrees pay off:**
 - Mary can spend less for first two years of study at a community or technical college or university branch campus.
 - What are Mary's interests? There are real differences in salaries between recent associate degree and bachelor's degree recipients but these become clearer by discipline/major.
- **An Ohio legislator wants to know if an investment in the research efforts of Ohio universities will pay off:**
 - Fact: Ohio's research dollars are developed by substantial federal dollars
 - Ohio ranks 10th in U.S. in its receipt of federal research dollars
 - Many of Ohio's universities are highly ranked in receipt of federal research dollars
 - Case Western Reserve University – ranks 30th nationally
 - The Ohio State University – ranks 35th
 - University of Cincinnati – ranks 53rd
- After 15 years of experience, we now know that every \$1 of investment Ohio has made in Research Challenge returns \$8-\$10 to Ohio in increased federal support.
- Ohio universities have particular areas of strength in biotechnology, nanotechnology and information technology, just to name a few.

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Ohio College and University Performance Report Add 2

The report also documents a few surprises:

- While remediation is necessary for more than one quarter of all new students, **it is effective**. After taking remedial courses, students can and do go on to succeed in college-level coursework.
- Transfer and mobility of students between colleges and universities in Ohio is **not only happening at a high rate, it is both cost-effective and academically effective**.
- In spite of the fact that **state support for college in Ohio lags the nation and Ohio taxpayers must pay more for college**, the colleges and universities in Ohio are performing at or above the nation in several areas of performance.

Regents' Chancellor Roderick G. W. Chu said he was pleased to present the first annual performance report to Governor Taft. He added that he was encouraged by the fact that Ohio ranks equal or ahead of the nation in many categories.

"This report is not intended to be a 'report card,'" said Chu. "It is meant to be what Governor Taft requested: an annual performance report of how our public colleges and universities are performing in certain areas. The intent of the report is to help students and their families make informed choices about which institution best suits their needs as well as reporting to Ohioans and Ohio's policymakers on accountability and justifying Ohio's financial commitments to higher education."

The report also is available on the **World Wide Web** at:

www.regents.state.oh.us/perfrpt/student_outcomes.html

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